

REMARKS

Claims 14, 22, and 23 have been amended. Claim 21 has been canceled. Claims 2, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, and 18 have been previously canceled. Claims 1, 3 through 5, 7, 10 through 14, 17, and 19, 20, 22, and 23 remain in the application.

Claims 1, 3 through 5, 7, and 10 through 13 have been allowed.

Claims 14, 17, and 19 through 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Skelton (U.S. Patent No. 5,092,481). Claims 14, 17, and 19 through 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Skelton '481. Applicant respectfully traverses both rejections.

Although Applicant disagrees with both rejections, claims 14 and 23 have been amended to add the allowable subject matter of claim 1 of "a second end extending generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said sleeve". It is respectfully submitted that claims 14 and 23 and the claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in a condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims and withdrawal of the final rejection. It is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. 1.116.

Respectfully submitted,

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